

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application. Claim 1 has been amended herein.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates volume pricing, comprising:

an offers and orders component that receives and aggregates orders for a product from a plurality of buyers; and

a logistics component that receives a portion of aggregated orders from the offers and orders component, determines a shipping price for the product for a subset of the plurality of buyers, the shipping price being determined based at least in part upon the subset of buyers sharing a shipping method, and outputs the shipping price.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a catalog component that manages a listing of a plurality of products.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a users and groups component that manages information of a plurality of users of the system.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising an access control component that manages access to a plurality of features of the system.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a messaging component that manages communication between the system, other systems, and a plurality of users of the system.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a terms and conditions component that manages agreements between users of the system as to business terms and conditions.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a blanket pricing component that manages agreements between buyers and sellers as to product prices.
8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a product relationships component that manages relationships between at least one of a plurality of products and another of the plurality of products.
9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, the relationship between at least one of the plurality of products and another of the plurality of products is a byproduct relationship.
10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, the relationship between at least one of the plurality of products and another of the plurality of products is a product family relationship.
11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a RFQ/RFO/RFP component that manages quote, offer, and product requests for a plurality of products.
12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising an invoicing component that manages system accounts.
13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising an agents component that performs routine tasks and to provide decision support for the plurality of buyers and a plurality of sellers.
14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 13, the agents component includes a seller agent component and a buyer agent component.
15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, the seller agent component utilizes historical data to determine a pricing strategy for at least one of a plurality of products with respect to at least one of the plurality of buyers.

16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, the seller agent component determines details that at least one of the plurality of sellers should include in an offer to achieve maximum profits.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, the seller agent component determines a production schedule for at least one of the plurality of sellers.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, the buyer agent component utilizes historical data to assist at least one of the plurality of buyers in finding a best buy for at least one of a plurality of products.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, the buyer agent component automatically creates an order for at least one of a plurality of products for at least one of the plurality of buyers.

20-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously presented) A system for volume pricing, comprising:

 a server configured to receive orders for a product from a plurality of different buyers via at least one remote computer system, the server comprising:

 a processor;

 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory stores a first price schedule and a second price schedule, the first price schedule determines a first price for the product for at least one of the plurality of different buyers and the second price schedule determines a second price for the product for the other plurality of different buyers;

 a network interface coupled to the processor for transmitting and receiving data with at least one remote computer system; and

 a computer-implemented logistics component that determines a shipping price for a good based on aggregative pricing for a plurality of buyers, the shipping price being determined based at least in part upon the plurality of buyers sharing a shipping method.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the first and second price schedules vary in accordance with a total quantity of product ordered.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the first and second price schedule vary in accordance with time.

46. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43, the server provides the plurality of different buyers access to view at least one of the first and second price schedules via one or more of the at least one remote computer system.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the server limits a period during which orders for the product are accepted to an open session period.

48-56 (Cancelled)

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the first and second price schedule vary in accordance with at least one of special offers and coupons possessed by at least one buyer of the plurality of buyers

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the first and second price schedule vary in accordance with buyer status.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, the total quantity is based in part on a conditional order where a buyer agrees to place an order if the price drops below a specified level.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, the total quantity is based in part on a conditional order where buyer agrees to place an order if the aggregative pricing reaches a certain percentage discount.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the server provides a plurality of private business forums that offer products for sale in accordance with differing price schedules.
62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the server provides an order web page that enables the seller to provide information to the seller, the information is at least one of purchase order number, quantity of product, product options, billing information, shipping information, coupon information, and gift certificate information.
63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, further comprising a security component that manages access to the server.
64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 63, the security component assigns disparate buyers different permission levels, the disparate permission levels allow buyers varying levels of activity.
65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 64, the varying levels of activity comprising read permissions, edit permissions, place order permissions, administrator permissions, and override permissions.
66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, further comprising a messaging module that enables communication between buyers and a remote computer system.
67. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 66, the messaging module communicates via at least one of email, fax, mobile devices, instant message devices, bulletin boards, and a buyer homepage.
68. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the memory stores a blanket pricing module that provides discount pricing to a buyer.
69. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, the memory stores an agent module that uses at least one of historical data and buyer input data to suggest a function to a buyer.

70. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the logistics component facilitates shipping aggregation for the subset of buyers, the shipping aggregation creates a cost savings for the product.

71. (Previously presented) The system of claim 70, the logistics component applies the cost savings to the shipping price for the subset of buyers.

72. (Previously presented) The system of claim 70, the logistics component applies the cost savings to a shipping price for the plurality of buyers.

73. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, an order from at least one of the plurality of buyers is independent from other orders received.

74. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43, the computer-implemented logistics component facilitates shipping aggregation for the plurality of different buyers, the shipping aggregation creates a cost savings for the product.

75. (Previously presented) The system of claim 74, the logistics component applies the cost savings to the shipping price for at least one of the plurality of different buyers and the other plurality of different buyers.

76. (Previously presented) The system of claim 43, an order from at least one of the plurality of different buyers is independent from other orders received.